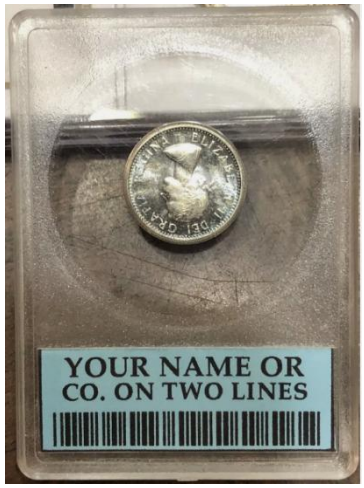
SAMPLE SLAB UPDATE

#41 – APRIL 2025

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SAMPLE SLAB COLLECTORS.

Accugrade Salesman's Sample



A fascinating and previously unknown Accugrade sample appeared on Instagram, posted by Ohio coin dealer CJ Buchanan, known as bignubnumismatics. According to the Conder101 slab book, page 177, "In 2002 Accugrade began selling their slabbing service to anyone who wanted their own slabs without the high expense of buying their own equipment. For a fee that was lower than ACG's regular grading fees, ACG would encapsulate the customers coin in an ACG shell with the customers grade, and their numbering system barcoded on the insert. ACG takes no responsibility as to the authenticity or grade on these slabs even though their logo is on the slab shell." This salesman's sample presumably is an advertisement for this service.

The holder auctioned on eBay for $333.88 on 3/15/25.

PCGS Paper Money Grading Timeline

In 2005, Certified Collectibles Group, the parent company of NGC, started grading paper money under the name Paper Money Guaranty. They continue to use this brand and essentially the same label and holder today. The same year, Collector's Universe, the parent company of PCGS, also began grading paper money. Their history is more complex, with five overlapping brands.

This is only a timeline of PCGS paper money brands and does not intend to tell the full history. Burton Strauss has more research that will appear in the third edition, volume 2. I welcome learning more from readers who know more about PCGS paper money brands.

PCGS Currency (2005 – 2019)

Collectors Universe began using the PCGS Currency name in 2005. In 2009, Collector's Universe licensed the PCGS Currency brand to K3B, Inc, headed by PCGS Currency's director Jason Bradford. Collector's Universe stopped grading paper money and only K3B used the PCGS Currency name. In 2019, the agreement expired and PCGS Currency ended.

PCGS Banknote Grading (2015 - 2016)

PCGS' Hong Kong office began grading paper money under the PCGS Banknote Grading brand probably in 2015, as their show samples are from shows in 2015 and 2016. They did not accept submissions from the United States and appeared to operate only in Asia.

PCGS Gold Shield Grading (2017 – 2019)

PCGS Gold Shield Grading samples reference shows in Asia and Australia 2017 through 2019, so presumably this brand was used in those areas and years.

PCGS Banknote (2020 – present)

PCGS Banknote launched at the January 2020 FUN show and continues today. Collector's Universe uses the PCGS Banknote brand worldwide, with samples appearing for shows in Asia, North America, and Europe.

PCGS CMC (2024?)

Two currency samples branded PCGS CMC sold on eBay March 2024. Presumably this was a joint venture between Collector's Universe and Taiwanese coin and currency grader Certificate of Multiple Collections (CMC).

PCGS eCollector Coin List

The few PCGS eCollector holders that appear for sale attract intense interest. But what coins are in the 100 slabs? Catalog listing PCGS-100-5-1 in the third edition draft reads in part:

"The PCGS newsletter was formerly known as the eCollector. Every two weeks from 11/13/08 through 8/28/12, one randomly selected subscriber received a specially labeled slab. The names of the 100 winners and, more importantly, details on the slabs, were at www.pcgs.com/ecollectorwinners/ (and still accessible through the Internet Archive Wayback Machine with a little work). Most are unique. The eCollector slabs have a wide variety of classic, modern, and bullion coins."

Because the list of eCollector slabs is no longer easily available,

I'm publishing it here. The coin descriptions are exactly as they appeared on the PCGS website.

Issue	Date	Coin
1	11/13/08	2007 Missing Edge Presidential Dollar
2	11/24/08	2008 10 Yn China Panda Silver Coin
3	12/9/08	2008-S Bald Eagle 50 Cent
4	12/22/08	2008 BU American Silver Eagle
5	1/6/09	1989 BU Off Center Nickel
6	1/20/09	2007 4pc. PR Presidential Dollar Set
7	2/3/09	2009 Silver Eagle
8	2/17/09	2009 Silver Eagle
9	3/3/09	PCGS SP Canada Maple Leaf
10	3/17/09	2009 $1 Australian Koala
11	3/31/09	2009 William Henry Harrison $1
12	4/14/09	2009 John Tyler PR Dollar
13	4/28/09	James Knox Polk PR Dollar
14	5/12/09	2009-S Zachary Taylor PR Dollar
15	5/27/09	2009-P Lincoln Bicentennial PCGS PR Dollar
16	6/9/09	1986 PCGS PR Statue of Liberty Commemorative Half Dollar
17	6/23/09	1982-S 50C PCGS PR69DCAM Washington
18	7/8/09	2008 Elizabeth Monroe Medal
19	7/21/09	2009-P Lincoln Bicentennial PCGS PR Abraham Lincoln dollar
20	7/30/09	2009 BU Silver Eagle
21	8/4/09	One Ounce Mexican Silver Libertad
22	8/18/09	$10 2000 Liberia
23	9/1/09	1943 Walking Liberty Half Dollar
24	9/15/09	BU 1938-D Buffalo Nickel
25	9/29/09	1893 Columbian Half Dollar
26	10/13/09	1993-P World War II Half Dollar
27	10/27/09	1996-P Olympic Swimming Half Dollar
28	11/11/09	2009 Mexican Silver Libertad
29	11/23/09	2009 BU Australia Kookaburra
30	12/8/09	2009 BU Silver Panda
31	12/21/09	2009 PR Marine Commemorative Dollar
32	1/6/10	2000 PR Liberia $10
33	1/19/10	1922 Peace Silver Dollar
34	2/2/10	1930 Standing Liberty Quarter
35	2/16/10	1921-D Morgan Dollar
36	3/2/10	1986 Statue of Liberty Proof Half Dollar
37	3/16/10	1993-S Bill of Rights Proof Half Dollar

38	3/30/10	1994-D Olympic Silver Dollar
39	4/13/10	1853 Seated Liberty Dime
40	4/27/10	1989-D Congress Half Dollar
41	5/11/10	1992-D Columbus Half Dollar
42	5/25/10	1994-W Uncirculated Women in Military Dollar
43	6/8/10	1998-S Proof Kennedy Half Dollar
44	6/22/10	2009-P Kennedy Half Dollar
45	7/6/10	2009-P Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
46	7/20/10	2009-P Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
47	8/3/10	BU Kennedy Half Dollar
48	8/17/10	BU Kennedy Half Dollar
49	8/31/10	2009-P Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
50	9/14/10	State Kennedy Half Dollar
51	9/28/10	Kennedy Half Dollar
52	10/12/10	BU Kennedy Half Dollar
53	10/28/10	Kennedy Half Dollar
54	11/9/10	Kennedy Half Dollar
55	11/22/10	Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
56	12/6/10	BU Kennedy Half Dollar
57	12/21/10	Kennedy Half Dollar
58	1/4/11	Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
59	1/18/11	Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
60	2/1/11	Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
61	2/15/11	Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
62	3/1/11	Mint State Kennedy Half Dolla
63	3/15/11	BU Kennedy Half Dollar
64	3/29/11	Kennedy Half Dollar
65	4/12/11	Kennedy Half Dollar
66	4/26/11	Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
67	5/11/11	2009-P Mint State Kennedy Half Dollar
68	5/24/11	Walking Liberty Half Dollar
69	6/7/11	1854 Large Cent
70	6/21/11	1834 Capped Bust Dime
71	7/6/11	1803 Draped Bust Large Cent
72	7/19/11	1871-S Seated Liberty Half Dollar
73	8/2/11	1871-S Seated Liberty Half Dollar
74	8/16/11	1857 Flying Eagle cent
75	8/30/11	1917-S Type 1 Standing Liberty Quarter
76	9/13/11	1893-S Type 1 Barber Dime
77	9/27/11	1872 Three Cent Piece

78	10/11/11	1918-S Dime
79	10/25/11	1891 Dime
80	11/8/11	1838 Large Cent
81	11/22/11	1893 Columbian Exposition Commemorative Half Dollar
82	12/6/11	1877-CC Seated Dime
83	12/20/11	1864 Large Motto 2 Cent Piece
84	1/3/12	1917-D Walking Liberty Half
85	1/17/12	1932-P Washington Quarter
86	1/31/12	1932-P Washington Quarter
87	2/14/12	1853 Silver Liberty Seated Half Dime
88	2/28/12	1821 Bust Dime
89	3/13/12	2008-P Kennedy Half dollar
90	3/27/12	1867 Shield Nickel
91	4/10/12	1865 three cent piece
92	4/24/12	1932 Quarter
93	5/7/12	1821 Bust Dime
94	5/22/12	1867 Shield Nickel
95	6/5/12	1932 Quarter
96	6/19/12	Uncirculated Kennedy Half Dollar
97	7/3/12	Walking Liberty Half Dollar
98	7/17/12	Flying Eagle Cent
99	7/31/12	Barber Quarter
100	8/28/12	1881-S Morgan Dollar

We have seen three of the 100.

#11 – 2009-S WH Harrison Presidential dollar graded "PR." Sold on eBay 10/22/23 for a whopping $660, then $202.50 on 2/22/25.
#21 – 2009-Mo Libertad one ounce silver graded "BU." My collection.
#36 – 1986-S Statue of Liberty commemorative half dollar graded "PR." Sold on eBay 7/14/24 for $222.50, then 10/24/24 for $395.

Have you seen other eCollectors?

Book News

In newsletter #40, we reported that Burton Strauss completed a draft of third edition, volume 1, covering NGC and PCGS. A second draft of volume 1 is now in progress. All 800+ items have been

described and priced. Yes, just NGC and PCGS now have more types than the entire second edition.

See SampleSlabs.info for more.

Buying and Selling

Buying

I buy sample collections or better single slabs for inventory. For my own collection, I look for samples from obscure or unlisted grading services (such as AHCGS, CCCS, or TCTS), gold coin samples, and rarities from all services. Specifically, I am looking for ICG casino chips, the PCGS blue label with a Canada 25 cents and grade MS00 and the Accugrade salesman's sample described in this newsletter. I also buy NGC Ocho (type 8.0) holders with W or T grades or Ochos of any grade if the holder has a type of coin I don't yet own. Contact me at davidschwager@hotmail.com or Instagram @schwagerdavid

Selling

Plenty of quality samples and other collectible slabs. Feel free to ask for more photos. All payment methods accepted (feeless preferred). Shipping $5, free for orders over $50. To order, email davidschwager@hotmail.com, or Instagram message @schwagerdavid.

Sample Slabs

1. NASC sets

Precious metals are up, but you can get the NASC gold coin samples from a 2020 coin show that never happened for the same price as last issue. Here's what remains, with melt values now based on $3,147/oz:

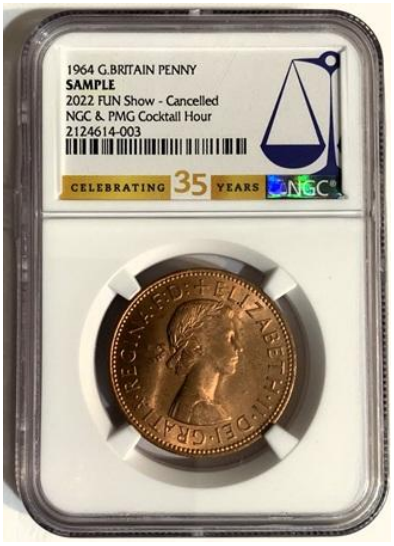
1945 Mexico 2.5 peso (AGW 0.0603 oz, melt $189) $259
1945 Mexico 2 peso (AGW 0.0482 oz, melt $151) $219
2020 Silver Eagle $60
1921-S Morgan AU $60

How about a package deal? Take the Silver Eagle, 21-S Morgan, and 2 peso gold for $10 off each coin, or $309 shipped.

2. GBPM (GongBo Paper Money) Sample

A large certifier in China but seldom seen here. The object inside is admission to a coin convention, styled to resemble a modern banknote. Google Translate renders the Chinese characters on the label as, "National Coin Collection Expo Commemorative Ticket. National Numismatic Collectors Association. Produced by the Appraisal and Rating Committee." $20

3. NGC 2022 Cancelled FUN Show.
Given to large NGC / PMG customers in lieu of the FUN customer appreciation event. You could make a collection of holders from cancelled shows. $60.

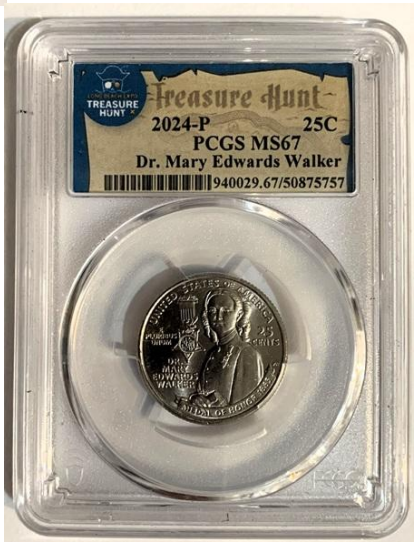


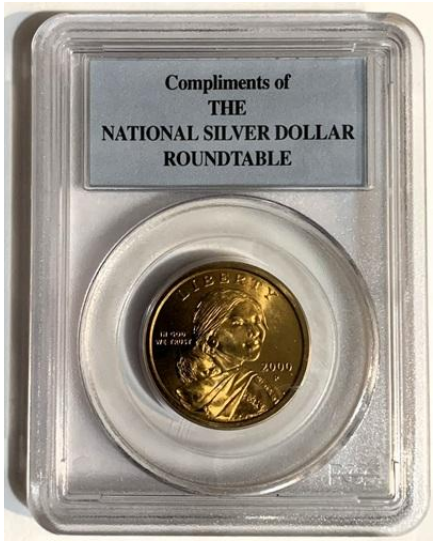
4. NGC 2024 FUN Cocktail Hour.
A seldom-seen sample with only one eBay sale. $45

5. PCGS Green Label No-Date Buffalo Nickel Sample. This is one of the PCGS rarities and seldom seen. A desirable older sample. $325

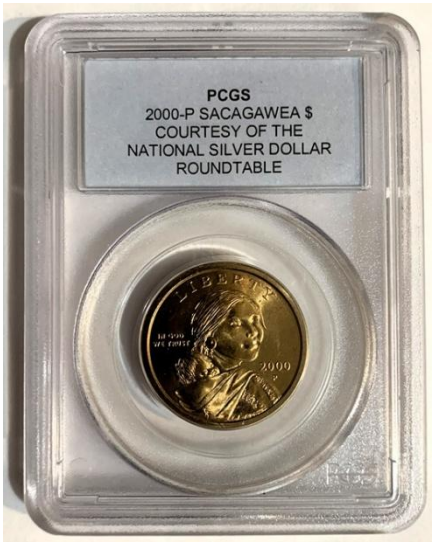
6. PCGS Luncheon 2022
PCGS moved their luncheon to the Long Beach Expo for 2022 and 2023. The event wasn't well publicized, and few samples were given, making it one of the toughest in the luncheon series. $200

7. PCGS Treasure Hunt – 2024-P Mary Walker Quarter
First appearance of this Treasure Hunt holder. With the Long Beach Expo suspended, this could be the final Treasure Hunt. $40





8. PCGS National Silver Dollar Roundtable.
Older blue label. There's strong demand for the Silver Dollar Roundtable holders. $175



9. PCGS National Silver Dollar Roundtable – another variety.
I haven't seen one of these blue Roundtable holders for years, then two showed up. Probably won't see another for a long time. $175

10. PCGS Luncheon August 2021
A better luncheon slab with a 35th anniversary medal. $75

Additional Vintage and Collectible Slabs

11. Blanchard Holder from the Redfield Hoard
It's a Blanchard AND a Redfield AND a better date 1928-S Peace dollar in MS63. Has it all. $500

12. Hallmark Holder with 1936 Cleveland Commemorative
Desirable vantage holder. Growing interest in these Hallmarks. $120

13. NGC Type 8.0 "The Ocho" with 1884-O Morgan MS65
The days when I can get Ochos for no premium seem to be coming to an end. $180

14. NGC Type 8.0 "The Ocho" with 1887 Morgan MS65
The NGC Type 8.0 was made for only four weeks in 2000. Recognize it by the tiny serial number under the bar code. The type was quickly changed because dealers complained they could not read the small writing. Blast white coin. $180

15. PCI Toner graded "100% White"
Attractive tangerine-colored toning on this Silver Eagle. PCI holders from around 2000 gave brilliant colors to the enclosed coins and there's a strong market for PCI toners. $180

Also see my eBay store. I will give better prices on eBay listings for readers who contact me directly. Sometimes a little better, sometimes a lot better, depending on how much room I have on the item.

Sample Slab Update #41 – April 2025 (sent 4/3/25). Published about every two months by David Schwager, Fountain Valley, California. davidschwager@hotmail.com. Please email me to be added to or removed from the mailing list. Comments and submissions are welcome. See SampleSlabBook.com or the Newman Numismatic Portal for past issues. The best way to reach me and know what I am doing is Instagram @schwagerdavid. I also respond to Facebook messages.